

9. (Amended) [The] A synthetic growth stimulating peptide [of claim 7, said peptide] having a sequence of amino acids from position 97 to position 121 as shown in FIG. 3 (SEQ ID NO: 13).

10. (Amended) [The] A synthetic growth stimulating peptide [of claim 7, said peptide] having a sequence of amino acids from position 104 to position 117 as shown in FIG. 3 (SEQ ID NO: 13).

11. (Amended) An isolated bioactive peptide [comprising] consisting of a sequence selected from the group consisting of LDTMVKEQK[..]GKGPGGAPPKDLMY (SEQ ID NO: 2) and KKLQGKGPGGPPPK (SEQ ID NO: 3).

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1-4, and 7-11 are amended.

Claims 1-11, 13-15, 22 and 27-29 are pending.

II. Claim Objections Regarding Sequence Identifier Number

On page 2 of the Action, the examiner objected to claims 2-4 and 7-10 for lacking sequence identifier numbers. Claims 2-4 and 7-10 are amended to reflect the appropriate SEQ ID NOS.

III. The Written Description Criteria are Satisfied

A. The Specification Discloses More Than One Species for the Claimed Genus

On page 3 of the Action, the examiner quoted from the revised interim guidelines that "adequate written description of a genus which embraces widely variant species cannot be achieved by disclosing only one species within the genus." But applicants provided more than one species. The applicants have analyzed AMP-18 protein sequences from divergent sources namely human, pig, and mouse. Therefore, the application discloses amino acid sequences for AMP-18 from at least 3 different species. In addition, as part of the invention, the applicants performed a functional mapping of the AMP-18 protein and obtained bioactivity profiles for several peptide fragments. Based on these analyses, well-defined mitogenic as well as inhibitory domains in the AMP-18 protein were identified (see Table 1 in the specification). Therefore, the specification provides sufficient disclosure for the claimed genus.

B. Correction of a Sequence Error Will Moot One Part of the Written Description Rejection